

Home Group Helps

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

Living in the Light of His Return: Shepherd Care

¹² But we request of you, brethren, that you appreciate those who diligently labor among you, and have charge over you in the Lord and give you instruction, ¹³ and that you esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Live in peace with one another.

(v.12a) – “But we request of you, brethren”:

I. Care for the Flock Requires:

- 1. Hard Work (v.12c)** – who diligently labor among you
- 2. Oversight (v.12d)** – and have charge over you in the Lord
- 3. Instruction (v.12e)** – and give you instruction

II. The Care for the Shepherd Requires:

- 1. Gratitude and Support (v.12a-b)** – ¹² But we request of you, brethren, that you appreciate those
- 2. Respect (v.13a)** – ¹³ and that you esteem them very highly
- 3. Love (v.13b)** – in love

Reason: “because of their work”

III. Care for Each Other Requires:

- (v.13c) – Live in peace with one another

1. Launching Question(s):

- Describe a good experience that you have had in church and a bad experience that you have had in church.

2. Observation Question(s):

- What is often the world’s view of the church?
- What is Christ’s view of the church?

3. Interpretation Question(s):

- According to the text, what are the three requirements of a Pastor/Officer?
- Explain the meaning and importance of each.
- What are the three requirements of the congregation toward their Pastor/Leaders?
- Explain the meaning and importance of each.
- What happens when these requirements are not met?

4. Reflection Question(s):

- How can we achieve “shepherd care” in our church?

5. Application Question(s):

- How might you encourage your congregation to practice these principles?